

FEBRUARY 1, 1843.

Read twice, and referred to the Committee on the Public Lands.

Mr. CHAPMAN, by leave of the House, reported the following bill:

A BILL

Explanatory of "An act supplemental to the act entitled 'An act to grant pre-emption rights to settlers on the public lands,' " approved June twenty-two, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That*
3 where a settler on the public land may reside on a quarter
4 section, a fractional quarter section, a fraction of a section,
5 or fractional section less than one hundred and sixty acres,
6 and cultivate land on any other and different tract, of either
7 of the descriptions just mentioned, he shall be entitled, under
8 the act to which this is a supplement, to the same privileges
9 of a choice between the two, or legal subdivisions of
10 each, so as to include his house and farm, so as not to exceed
11 one hundred and sixty acres in all, as is granted by the first
12 section of that act to settlers residing on a quarter section,
13 and cultivating on another and different quarter section.

1 SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That where two or*
2 more persons are residing on any of the species of tracts
3 above mentioned, as required by the acts of the twenty-second
4 of June, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight, and
5 first of June, one thousand eight hundred and forty, and any

6 one or more of said settlers may have cultivated land, during
 7 the period of residence required by either of said acts, on
 8 another and different tract, or other and different tracts, the
 9 latter-mentioned settler or settlers shall be entitled to the
 10 option of entering the tract lived on, jointly with the other
 11 or others, as now provided by law, or of abandoning the tract
 12 lived on to those who have not cultivated land as above re-
 13 quired, and entering the tract or tracts cultivated, so as not
 14 to exceed one hundred and sixty acres to any one settler, who,
 15 by virtue of this section, is entitled to a separate entry ; or
 16 such joint settlers may jointly enter the tract so jointly occu-
 17 pied by them, and, in addition, enter other contiguous unoc-
 18 cupied lands, by legal subdivisions, so as not to exceed one
 19 hundred and sixty acres, in all, to each of such joint settlers.

1 *SEC. 3. And be it further enacted,* That every settler
 2 on the public lands which were not surveyed at the passage
 3 of the act to which this is explanatory, and who, since the
 4 survey of said lands, has been ascertained to have resided at
 5 the date of said act, and for four months preceding, on a six-
 6 teenth section, or lands set apart for the use of schools, in
 7 any township, shall be entitled to enter, at the minimum
 8 price, any other quarter section, fraction of a section, or frac-
 9 tional section, so as not to exceed one hundred and sixty
 10 acres, to which no other person has a right of pre-emption,
 11 on making the proof required by the third section of said
 12 act before the register and receiver of the land office of said
 13 district.